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Resistance Stifens As Kemmel Height Lost; Enemy Is Held Fast

German Efforts to Follow Up Success West of Hill and South of Ypres Fail

French and British Gallantly Fighting Against Teuton Hordes—Ypres Salient May Be Abandoned But Tactical Advantage Is Costing Germans A Fearful Price—Better On Somme Front

The loss of Mount Kemmel has evidently failed to organize in any way the allied resistance in the Ypres section. The line, in fact, seems to have stiffened since this isolated height was taken by the Germans, and the enemy after a day of desperate struggle yesterday found himself held fast every-

where. Loore, west of Mount Kemmel and Voormezele, two miles south of Ypres, were the chief points under attack by the Germans in their vain effort to develop their success of the previous day. At each, although the fighting fluctuated during the day, the enemy failed to gain his objectives and today is no further advanced toward them than he was yesterday morning.

The French fought with great gallantry in the Loore sector, inflicting severe losses on the enemy in his four attacks, the last of which carried him into the village. Last evening the French counter-attacked vigorously and regained the place.

The British were no less stubborn in their defence of Voormezele, at which point they were obliged to hold fast in the face of the east and north around Ypres was not to be abandoned. Today found them still in possession of the village and holding fast in the wood on the edge southwest of the town. Several hundred prisoners were taken by the British in this fighting.

GIVES UP YPRES?

There seems a quite general disposition on the part of the military observers to forecast the eventual abandonment of the Ypres salient as the result of the fall of Mount Kemmel, but it has been pointed out by the British war office that this result will not necessarily follow. It is likewise observed, however, that should an evacuation of Ypres become necessary, the taking of Mount Kemmel has not destroyed the defensive value of the range of hills to the west, from which it stood out, and which have been referred to as the backbone of the Flanders position. Meanwhile the cost in men to the Germans in the progress that they have made without winning more than a tactical advantage has been enormous.

On the Somme battle front the situation has worked still more in favor of the Allies. The recapture of Villers-Bretonneux and its dominating high ground by the British has made the German tenuous of Hangard, to the south, extremely precarious, and they have already lost part of the village. London reports a further advancement of the Allied line last night in this sector. An attack by German tanks was broken up by the British fire. More than 900 prisoners were taken by the British in the fighting here.

London, April 27—Continuing their counter-attacks on the front east of Amiens the Allies have gained further advantages in the Hangard-Villers-Bretonneux sector.

The French have recaptured position s from Loocore to Lacytze, in Flanders west of Mount Kemmel.

The fighting on the Flanders front north of the Lys was very severe. The enemy advance was held at all points. Heavy losses were inflicted on the Germans.

The Germans made a heavy attack on the front south of Ypres. There was a long battle for Voormezele, two miles south of Ypres, which the British retained, taking hundreds of prisoners.

Kemmel Hill, a height which has been looked upon as the key to the southern side of the Ypres salient, and one of the most important strategic positions on the northern battlefield in France was captured by the Germans yesterday. Military experts now realize that the whole of the Ypres salient is in danger. (Continued on page 2, sixth column)

ALL LEAVE IN DUTCH FORCES IS STOPPED

Every Man at Post on Land and Ship—German Papers Lecture Holland

The Hague, April 27—The commander-in-chief of the land and sea forces in Holland has provisionally stopped all leave of absence.

London, April 27—Referring to the tension between Holland and Germany, the Rotterdam correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says he understands that the Dutch government already has taken preliminary steps to bring into force certain military measures. German papers regarding Holland are lecturing the Dutch regarding the risks they are running.

The Taegliche Rundschau, of Berlin, warns them against Holland becoming a second Belgium, that is to say, a place from which Great Britain may attack Germany. The possibility of such a development cannot, it says, be disregarded and warns the Dutch in their own interest to seek cover.

The clerical Germania says the German demands on Holland are intended to restore the balance of that country which they have shown itself "too conciliatory toward the Entente."

HUNDRED AND THREE IN AMERICAN CASUALTY LIST

Washington, April 27—The casualty list today contained 108 names, divided as follows: Killed in action, eleven; died of accident, four; died of disease, two; wounded severely, forty-seven; wounded slightly, thirty-seven; missing, two.

BRITISH DEFEAT AUSTRIANS AT SEA

London, April 27—The British admiralty announced today "Two of our destroyers in the Adriatic engaged five Austrians. The enemy fled to Durazzo for shelter.

"Five more British and French destroyers joined in the pursuit toward Durazzo, which continued until after midnight on Monday. Our casualties were seven killed and nineteen wounded."

ONTARIO FARMERS TO PRESS FOR EXEMPTION OF HELP

Toronto, April 27—A delegation of farmers, 2,500 strong, representing Ontario, is going to Ottawa before the present session of the House of Commons ends to protest against the action of the government in calling men between the ages of twenty and twenty-three without exempting men engaged in farm work.

REPORTED RESIGNATION OF RHONDDA CONFIRMED

London, April 27—The reports that Baron Rhondda had resigned the office of food controller because of ill health, are confirmed. It is said, however, that his resignation has not been accepted.

WALL STREET.

New York, April 27—Stocks were heavy at the opening of today's market, overnight war bulletins causing moderate unsettlement. Equipments, rail, shipbuilding and industrial were lower by large fractions to a point.

FUNERAL OF PRIEST LIKELY ON TUESDAY



THE LATE REV. J. J. O'DONOVAN His Lordship Bishop LeBlanc arrived home this afternoon from Boston, where he had been with the late Rev. J. J. O'Donovan during his illness and death. He said that the body would be brought to the city on Monday and that in all probability the funeral would take place on Tuesday from the Church of the Assumption in West St. John. (Fall arrangements had not been completed. (See page 12.)

SPEND LAST DOLLAR; SEND EVERY MAN ABLE TO FIGHT

New York, April 27—The New York Sun publishes a lengthy interview with Sir Robert Borden in which Sir Robert is quoted as saying that Canada will spend her last dollar to win the war and that every able-bodied man will be conscripted.

RUSSIANS WARM TO THE ALLIES

London, April 27—It is reported that Leon Trotsky, Bolshevik minister of war and marine, has gone to Murmansk, northern Finland, to arrange for an anti-Russian force to resist the Russian forces there to resist the German attempt to push northward. Good feeling between the Allies and the Russians is reported to be increasing in Petrograd and Moscow.

In this latter respect it is said that the sentiment of a majority of the population has undergone a radical change in the last five or six weeks. The general feeling six weeks ago was distinctly anti-ally and many places were openly pro-German. Today sentiment is said to be violently anti-German, and the attitude towards the Allies is declared to vary from suspicion of the Japanese to a friendly attitude toward the British and French and the warmest friendliness toward the United States.

Trotsky Reported in Finland Arranging for Opposition to German Push

London, April 27—On Thursday British airmen dropped 650 bombs on Menin, Roulers, Armentieres and enemy billets. Ten hostile machines were downed in air fighting and two others were disabled. Four others were shot down by anti-aircraft gunfire and one by infantry fire. Two of our machines are missing."

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CASUALTY LIST GROWS

British Losses 18,369 in Report This Week

London, April 27—Casualties in the British ranks reported this week totalled 18,369, as follows: Killed or died of wounds, officers 408; 2,661; wounded or missing, officers 2,671; men 18,229.

Despite the heavy fighting for more than a month the British casualties reported are only now beginning to approach the high figures of last year when the British were on the offensive on the western front. The increase recently has been on an average of fifty per cent each week over the week preceding. Last week the aggregate was 12,968, and the week previous 8,129.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis—The barometer is high from Ontario to the maritime provinces with over the southwestern states there is an important area of low pressure which will probably move slowly towards the Great Lakes. The weather is fair throughout Canada with a general tendency towards higher temperature.

Forecasts. Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence Valleys—Moderate winds, fair today and on Sunday; a little higher temperature. Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Moderate winds, fair today and



Small British Tanks Did Great Execution

With the British Army in France, April 26—(By the Associated Press)—The slaughter caused by the small British tanks among a concentration of the enemy near Sacy in Wednesday's fighting appears to have been even greater than was originally reported. A few of these little engines, which are much faster than the ordinary big tanks, made the assault so quickly on two or three battalions of the enemy's infantry which were forming for an attack that the Germans were unable to scatter before they were being fiercely deluged with machine gun bullets.

Canadians Give Hun No Rest Constant Harassing and Worrying Tactics; Our Men Dominate No Man's Land

Canadian Army Headquarters in the Field, April 26—(via London, by W. A. Willison, special correspondent of the Canadian Press)—Carrying out a deliberate policy of harassing and worrying the enemy, the Canadians, all along their front, are raiding the Boche lines persistently. Not a night passes without one, two or three raids, some of them of a minor nature, against hostile posts, others in strength, penetrating the enemy's front line and support areas.

Our domination of No Man's Land has never been more complete, nor have we conducted such constant operations of an aggressive character, with less cost to ourselves.

With raids, gas, bullets and shells, the enemy opposite the Canadians is enduring constant hostile activity which must confuse his movements, demoralize his men, and lower the general morale of his forces.

German Losses 500,000 To 800,000; People Gloomy

London, April 27—A high British authority is informed that the German losses in the great battle have been very high. The French staff estimate puts the total at half a million casualties, and other estimates 800,000.

The German Iron Heel on The Ukraine

Washington, April 26—The requisitions made by the Austro-Germans in Ukraine are so severe that the peasants are revolting and are holding soldiers at bay. Wounded or missing, and many persons have been killed on both sides.

GERMANS PLAN A FIGHT IN TRIPOLI

Washington, April 27—German submarines have been landing guns, food and munitions on the coast of Tripoli, according to an official despatch from France. The despatches quote General Nivelle, formerly commander-in-chief of the French army, and now commanding the North African troops, as saying that the situation in the section open to German-Turkish attack on the Tripoli coast is well consolidated against attack from the allied tribes, who have been co-operating with the Germans and Turks.

CAPTAIN AND ALL DECK OFFICERS LOST WITH SHIP

New York, April 27—Captain J. F. Butterfield and all the deck officers of the American steamship Florence H. are now believed to have lost their lives when that ship was destroyed by an explosion on April 17, while off the French coast.

A list of survivors received here does not contain their names. Only two of the engine room officers escaped uninjured, the others being reported as badly burned.

Of the men in the civilian crew, twenty-nine are dead or missing, twelve are in hospitals badly burned, two are slightly burned and only thirteen escaped uninjured.

The German minister to The Netherlands is still at The Hague.

Crisis Most Serious Yet

Brave French Fought to the Very Last on Kemmel Crest

Fate May Never Be Known Till Germans Write War History

DRAMATIC RESISTANCE

Enemy Finally Forced Allied Line Back at Nine O'Clock in The Morning; Then Followed Terrific Fight as Defending Regiments Sought to Cling to Hill

With the British Army in France, April 26—(By the Associated Press)—How long the French regiment was able to continue its dramatic resistance on the crest of Mount Kemmel yesterday may not be known until the German historians record it after the war. It was about nine o'clock yesterday when the Germans finally succeeded in encircling the crest of the hill and pushing the allied line at the junction of the French and British west of Wytshaete. From that time until late in the day regiments clung to the hill and continued a terrific execution among the enemy troops with machine guns. Beyond that nothing is known of their fate.

There were very heavy attacks against the British on the French left all day yesterday. The British immediately began pushing troops down toward the gap after the Germans had driven an entering wedge, and hard fighting ensued. A particularly sanguinary struggle was waged at Vierstraat, northeast of Wytshaete, and here the continuing troops fought in and out of the hamlet for hours.

The British counter stroke which ousted the Germans from Villers-Bretonneux, south of the Somme, was a great success from the start. The town had been cleared of the enemy by yesterday afternoon with the exception of "pockets" of infantry, one near the railway station and the other near the neighboring monument of the war of 1870.

Large numbers of the enemy were taken in the streets and many were taken prisoners. By Thursday morning those who had been in hiding were crawling out and surrendering freely.

Among the prisoners captured were several young officers, who gave their opinion of things in general with refreshing candor. They were chagrined at the fiasco which the Germans had made of the Villers-Bretonneux attack. Some had unkind things to say of the higher command.

A British officer in talking with one of the young German lieutenants asked the latter to explain why the German submarines had sunk only one American transport.

"That is what we would like to know," the youngster replied.

When questioned as to what he thought the reason for all the world being against the Germans, he gave the same reply. The officer said the Germans had been wondering about these very problems and others of similar nature for some time. The captured officers appeared to be clean cut fellows of good types.

Montreal, April 27—The Gazette publishes the following despatch from Ottawa: It is understood that there may be a new form of taxation announced in the budget speech to be delivered by Hon. A. K. McLean, acting minister of finance, here on next Tuesday.

The proposal is to impose a tax of one per cent on all Canadian commercial transactions, both domestic and export transactions, of producers of raw materials, of the transactions of manufacturers, of jobbers and of retailers where purchases amount to \$1 or more. In the case of the retail tax it will be paid by stamps affixed to receipts, as stamps are now attached to packages of proprietary drugs.

The adoption of this taxation scheme, it is said, depends upon a decision reached at a conference between the premier and the finance minister at New York.

Irish Conscription Next Week? London, April 27—It is reported in Nationalist circles that an order-in-council will be signed enforcing conscription in Ireland next week, says a Central News despatch from Ireland.

London Papers Call For More Men

Situation Changed Seriously

Discuss What Possession of Channel Ports by Enemy Would Mean—Loss of Mount Kemmel May Mean the Withdrawal of Ypres Line

London, April 27—Commenting on the Flanders battle in serious tone, the morning newspapers contend that the situation imposes upon Great Britain the necessity of putting forth the utmost effort, especially of furnishing more men to supply the wastage in the ceaseless fighting.

"We are faced with a crisis more perilous and momentous than any that has hitherto arisen, even in this appalling war," writes the military correspondent of the Daily Telegraph. "Possession of the channel ports by the enemy would make our task on land and sea infinitely more intricate and costly."

The Daily News in an editorial says the situation has changed seriously for the worse as a result of the fighting of the last two days and that the German drive toward the channel is a matter of serious concern. Nevertheless, it regards the situation as in no wise yet stabilized and says that if the Germans mean to break through they must do it quickly before American reinforcements finally turn the tide."

The effect of the capture of Mount Kemmel upon the situation at Ypres is canvassed anxiously by some papers. The Daily Chronicle thinks that Ypres could be held despite the loss of Mount Kemmel, but the tenure would be costly and precarious. It hopes that it will be found possible to dislodge the enemy at Villers-Bretonneux. Otherwise, it says, a further withdrawal of the Ypres line may be desirable. The Chronicle contends, however, that the present value of Ypres is only secondary.

The Daily Mail says it would be folly to minimize the success the enemy has achieved and if the loss of Kemmel should prove permanent, the difficulty in holding Ypres would be increased materially. It concludes by urging the necessity of maintaining the supply of men.

TAKE LABOR MEN INTO CONFIDENCE, SAYS GOMPERS

Speech at Dinner Tendered Him Last Evening by Cabinet in Chateau Laurier

Ottawa, April 27—Appealing for greater co-operation between the government and the labor party of Canada, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a lengthy speech at a dinner tendered to him by the cabinet in the Chateau Laurier last night, urged that the labor men of this country be taken more and more into consideration and consulted with regard to the policies which it was proposed to adopt. He asked that the men be placed upon their honor and there was not a shadow of a doubt they would do all in their power to assist the government in its undertakings.

J. C. Watters, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, spoke of the cordial relations which now existed between the government and the labor party, stating that it was not long ago that conferences between the two would not have been thought of, but the great humanizing influence of the war had had its effect.

Hon. N. W. Rowell presided and, in addition to the members of the cabinet, a large number of labor officials were present.

THE PRINCE EITEL BURNED AND SUNK

Bogot, Colombia, April 27—The German liner Prince Eitel Friedrich, which has been interned at Puerto Colombia, was burned and sunk at her anchorage there yesterday. The steamer was owned by the Hamburg-American line and displaced 4,650 tons.

MRS. EDWARD SMITH. Mrs. Annie Smith, widow of Edward Smith, died last evening at her home in Milford, after a lingering illness. She leaves three sons, Charles of West St. John; Edward of the city, and Robert at home; five daughters, Mrs. Louise Hanson and Mrs. H. Conneau of the city, Mrs. Willard Brennan of West St. John, Mrs. M. Craig of Milford and Mrs. John Ewart of Milford. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon.